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Deutschland nebst Böhmen und dem Mündungsgebiet des Rheins.

Die geographische Gestaltung des Landes als Grundlage für die Entwicklung von Handel, Industrie und Ackerbau mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Seestädte. Von Prof. Dr. Albert Zweck. x and 238 pp., 42 Illustrations in the Text, and Index.

B. G. Teubner, Leipzig, 1908. Price, M. 4.

A study of the industrial and commercial conditions of Germany as based upon the geology of the country and its physiographic features. These factors are, of course, fundamental in their influence upon the development of human enterprise. Future books on economic geography will be partly judged by the adequacy with which they treat the influence of geology and physical geography in shaping and directing man's work. Dr. Zweck's book is an admirable example of this method of developing the subject of economic geography. He applies it to all parts of Germany, gives the essential facts relating to their geology, the genesis of their land forms and soils, the effects of these factors upon production, the influence of climate, the origin and distribution of coal, iron and other mineral resources, etc. In discussing the low plain of the upper Rhine (*Oberrheinische Tiefebene*), for example, he tells of the sinking of this "Grabenbruch" from the Tertiary to the Ice Age; of the later Tertiary and Quaternary deposits that covered the sunken area, especially with loess, which tillers of the soil have found to be peculiarly adapted for the cultivation of cereals, orchard fruits, the vine and hops; of the warmer climate of this valley plain, hemmed in by hills, giving it the warmest and longest summer in Germany and thus intensifying the effect upon production of the superior soil. While Dr. Zweck emphasizes natural influences, he does not fail to show what human genius and invention have done to stimulate the wonderful development of industry in the past generation. Part II is a study of the trade and communications of Germany. The book may heartily be commended to teachers as a logical, forceful and scientific method of presenting to students the subject of economic geography.

Régions naturelles et noms de pays. Étude sur la région parisienne. Par M. L. Gallois, prof. adj. à l'université de Paris. Librairie Armand Colin, Paris. 1908. Pr., fr. 8.

The word country (*pays*) is used in this treatise in the same meaning that R. T. Hill found attributed to it colloquially in certain parts of Texas, namely, designating "local districts" whose names are derived either from their locations or from "specific natural features" of the respective regions. The geography of the Old World is especially rich in such "country" names which are often entirely different from the political nomenclature of the region, and the author's object in this book is to determine, in the case of the Parisian region, whether these popular names actually correspond to "specific natural features" and thus represent distinct natural divisions of the country, and if so to determine the character of these natural features that are at the bottom of this distinction. He has spared no pains to ascertain the history and application of each name both from ancient geographies and maps and from actual observation and examination of the inhabitants and the ways in which they use these names, and, after a careful analysis of each case, he makes the following classification:

The first group of these names has a purely historical origin. They are, either names of former provinces or military governments corresponding, to a certain degree, to the old feudal domains which had grown up in the course of